

REMARKS

In response to the above-identified Final Office Action, Applicants do not amend the application, but submits the following remarks and seeks reconsideration thereof. In this Response, no claims have been added, no claims have been cancelled, and no claims have been amended. Accordingly, Claims 1-22 are pending.

Applicants conducted a telephone interview with the Examiner on December 22, 2004. In that interview, it was agreed that the finality of a rejection is premature at least for the reason that official notice was taken for the first time in this action in connection with Claim 17 related to the occlusion limitation. The merit of that rejection is discussed in more detail below. In any event, in view of that agreement, the finality of the rejection should be withdrawn.

I. Claims Rejected Under 35 U.S.C. §102

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1 through 17 under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by Pai, U.S. Patent No. 5,935,247 ("Pai"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

With respect to Claim 1, as discussed in the above-referenced interview, Applicants contends that a monitor and/or monitor and frame buffer cannot constitute system memory with an isolated output area herein. Applicants note that the common understanding of the term, "system memory," is the memory the computer uses to hold current programs and data that are in use. A system memory typically holds the instructions that the processor executes and the data that these instructions work with. For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that Pai neither teaches nor

suggests the system memory has an isolated output area as claimed in independent Claim 1.

Similarly, with respect to Claim 19, which claims a direct memory access controller to issue a request for access to an isolated output area, Applicants respectfully submit that direct memory access controllers do not issue requests to frame buffers and/or monitors. The application of Pai to this claim fails to yield a prima facie case of anticipation of Claim 19.

With respect to Claim 12, Applicants respectfully submit that Pai fails to teach or suggest an isolated execution environment having an isolated execution mode. Applicants have closely reviewed Pai and have been unable to discern a teaching of an isolated execution mode as claimed. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

Since all independent claims have been shown to be patentable over the reference of record, their dependent claims are at least patentable as dependent on a patentable independent claim.

Regarding Claim 17, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 17 depends on Claim 16, which in turn depends on Claim 13 following the dependency tree, one is able to discern that the windows occluded are all windows other than the window defined in the defining element of Claim 17, which is the window into which the isolated output area data from the bit plane on the graphics card is loaded. Stated differently, all non-isolated mode windows are occluded responsive to entry into the isolated mode. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the official notice of ATM machines, even if well taken, and even if it did render obvious, "to one of ordinary skill in the art

[to] occlude the image prior to transitioning out of isolated execution mode, in order to preserve the security information being displayed," is inapposite here. Applicants respectfully submit that it is not the occlusion of information transitioning out of isolated execution mode that is being claimed. Rather, in Claim 17, the occlusion of other windows upon the entrance into isolated execution mode that is claimed. It is respectfully made for this additional reason, rejection of Claim 17 should be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102 of all pending claims should be withdrawn.

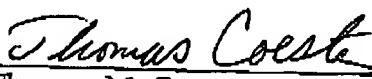
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all claims now pending are now in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited at the earliest possible date. If there are any additional fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge those fees to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666. Questions regarding this matter should be directed to the undersigned at (310) 207-3800.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN

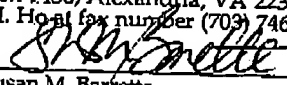
Dated: December 27, 2004


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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile on the date shown below to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, Attn: Examiner Thomas M. Hoal fax number (703) 746-7238 on December 27, 2004.


Susan M. Barette

12/27/04
Date

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